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From beginning to end the author seeks to prove a thesis, and to arouse interest by the marshalling of striking details. The thesis is proved, dramatic effects are realized, and scholarly standards are not sacrificed in the process.

ROSWELL C. MCCREA.

New York City.

Wage Earning Women. By ANNIE MARION MACLEAN Professor of Sociology in Adelphi College. (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1910. Pp. xv, 202. \$1.25).

This book is the result of an investigation into the condition of wage-earning women in this country, instituted by the National Board of the Young Women's Christian Association, in 1907. The investigation was placed in the hands of Dr. MacLean, Professor of Sociology in Adelphi College, who enlisted the services of twenty-nine college women from various parts of the country to do the field work. The work began June 10, 1907, and while mainly carried out in that year, did not close until May 30, 1908. In all, 400 establishments employing 135,000 women in different states and cities were investigated. Dr. MacLean has brought together in this book such results of the investigation as are of general interest.

No attempt is made to survey the condition of women workers in the country as a whole, or to enter into any elaborate statistical study of the position of women wage-earners. On the contrary, the effort has been to give a series of typical pictures of the condition of wage-earning women in different parts of the country. Very properly the survey begins with the women workers in New England in the textile, shoe, and paper factories; then the condition of the 400,000 women workers in New York City is very clearly set forth. The condition of women workers in Chicago and in the Central West is next discussed. In the far West we have pictures of women working at hop-picking in Oregon, and in the fruit industries of California. The last of these concrete descriptions is that of the condition of women in the coal fields of Pennsylvania.

Inasmuch as the book was written with a philanthropic purpose,

it is fitting that each chapter should devote considerable attention to the betterment undertakings for working women. For such cities as New York and Chicago, are described the work of the settlements, the trade unions, the association of working girls' clubs, and the like. It is not surprising that these efforts for betterment are found to be very inadequate in proportion to the vast mass of wage-earning women. Miss MacLean does not go, to any extent, into the theoretical questions involved in woman's wages and the presence of a large number of women in industry. She does not even discuss at length the effects upon social morality of the unsalutary conditions which she describes. Nevertheless, while the book is confined mainly to the presentation of facts, there are in the background wholesome theoretical views upon the relations of women to our industrial and social life, as may, perhaps, be sufficiently shown by the following quotation: "The prime function of women must be the perpetuating of the race. If these other activities render her physically or morally unfit for the discharge of this larger social duty, then woe to the generations that not only permit but encourage such wanton prostitution of function. The woman is worth more to society in dollars and cents as the mother of healthy children than as the swiftest labeler of cans."

The book is a valuable collection of facts regarding women wage-earners, grouped in such a way as to command interest and at the same time to suggest means and methods of ameliorating conditions. On the whole, it is a worthy contribution to our growing literature on women in industry.

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University of Missouri.

Elements of Foreign Exchange. By FRANKLIN ESCHER, Editor *Investments Magazine*. (New York: The Bankers Publishing Company, 1910. Pp. viii, 160. \$1.)

Gold Production and Future Prices. By HARRISON H. BRACE. (New York: The Bankers Publishing Company, 1910. Pp. viii, 145. \$1.50.)

These books are both good, popular presentations of their subjects.